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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: CHRISTOPHER C. BENZ, GARY K. SCOTT, and CHUAN-HSIUNG CHANG

Assignee: The Regents of the University of California

Title: A NEW ETS-RELATED GENE OVEREXPRESSED IN HUMAN BREAST AND EPITHELIAL CANCERS

Serial No.: 08/978,217

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Examiner: Ann L. Holleran

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

San Jose, California
October 2, 2000

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 30 March 2000, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks. A Change in Correspondence Address and a petition for a three month extension of time is enclosed. For the convenience of the Examiner, a list of the pending claims is attached as Appendix I.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 15, 19, 27-70, 72-78, 80, and 81 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 16, 17, 18, and 20 as follows:

1. (Once amended) [An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding at least about five contiguous amino acids of an ESX transcription factor variable region polypeptide, wherein said variable region has an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7 or conservative substitutions of said amino acid sequence.] An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of:
- a nucleic acid that specifically hybridizes to a human ESX nucleic acid under stringent conditions; and
- a nucleic acid that encodes an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

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